

# Health Care Science & Services Career Pathway

MISSOURI ECONOMIC RESEARCH & INFORMATION CENTER  
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
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## What are Career Pathways?

Career Pathways are groups of occupations within a career field. Occupations within a pathway share common skills, knowledge, and interests. The pathways use industry-recognized credentials and are examples of how different levels of training or education can help provide opportunities for career advancement.

### Missouri Numbers:



**13,830 Employers**



**317,324 Workers**



**\$66,619 Average Wage**

### Why Have a Career in Health Care?

Health Care Science & Services is the largest employing industry in Missouri, making up 13.1 percent of total private sector employment. The Health Care Science & Services industry has over 13,000 employers that provide jobs to over 317,000 workers across the state.

Missouri's Health Care industry has particularly high employment concentrations in *General Medical and Surgical Hospitals*, as well as *Nursing and Residential Care Facilities*. Wages in this industry averaged \$66,619 in 2022, higher than the state average of \$54,520 for all industries. An aging patient population and retiring health care workers contribute to the growing and projected need.

The Health Care industry provides a variety of work opportunities for every interest. From jobs that directly care for patients to careers that keep the whole system going, important jobs are waiting to be filled in Patient Care, Diagnostic/Therapeutic, and Business Operations.

### Know the Basics

Health Care careers often involve interactions with patients and other team members, so active listening and communication skills are important. Health Care includes many essential occupations that need to be staffed around the clock, so dependability and reliability are a must. Soft skills, such as interpersonal skills, professionalism, and dependability are important in all industries and occupations.

### Skills needed for Success:

The Health Care Science and Services industry has a set of industry-wide technical competencies that represent the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in this industry. With the need for privacy and confidentiality in these industries, workers need to have knowledge of health industry ethics, laws and regulations, in addition to being able to keep accurate and confidential documentation. Patient interaction, infection control, understanding of drugs and medications, as well as the knowledge of diagnostic procedures, scientific methods, and technology are some of the skills needed for success in this industry.

### Who's Hiring in Missouri?

**Mercy Health**

**BJC HealthCare**

**Hospital Corporation of America**

**Saint Luke's Health System**

**St. Johns Regional Health Center**



## Patient Care

## Diagnostic/ Therapeutic

## Business Operations

### Now

#### Short-Term On-the-Job Training

##### Home Health & Personal Care Aides

Entry: \$23,670 Average: \$27,390

**Certificates:** Home Health Aide, Certified Caregiver, First Aid CPR AED, Nursing Assistant

##### Psychiatric Aides

Entry: \$31,140 Average: \$35,990

**Certificates:** First Aid CPR AED

##### Receptionists & Information Clerks

Entry: \$27,040 Average: \$32,130

##### Customer Service Representatives

Entry: \$30,840 Average: \$40,410

**Certificates:** Certified Healthcare Access Associate (CHAA), First Aid CPR AED

### Next

#### Certificate, Associate Degree, Apprenticeship, Moderate- to Long- Term On-the-Job Training

##### Nursing Assistants

Entry: \$28,970 Average: \$32,760

##### Licensed Practical & Vocational Nurses

Entry: \$43,810 Average: \$49,500

##### Emergency Medical Technicians

Entry: \$30,470 Average: \$37,410

**Certificates:** Nursing Assistant, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

##### Dental Assistants

Entry: \$36,920 Average: \$42,260

##### Dental Hygienists

Entry: \$74,460 Average: \$76,540

##### Pharmacy Technicians

Entry: \$29,610 Average: \$36,280

**Certificates:** Dental Hygienist, Dental Assistant American, First Aid CPR AED

##### Medical Records Specialists

Entry: \$37,170 Average: \$49,020

##### Computer User Support Specialists

Entry: \$45,380 Average: \$60,790

##### Medical Secretaries

Entry: \$31,150 Average: \$38,080

**Certificates:** Registered Health Information Technician, Certified Professional Coder, Certified A+ Technician, Network +, Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)

### Later

#### Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree

##### Registered Nurses

Entry: \$60,430 Average: \$71,860

##### Physical Therapists

Entry: \$76,470 Average: \$89,790

##### Family Medicine Physicians

Entry: \$112,990 Average: \$221,320

**Degrees:** Nursing Science, Physical Therapy, Medicine

##### Dentists

Entry: N/A Average: N/A

##### Pharmacists

Entry: \$124,800 Average: \$128,040

##### Healthcare Social Workers

Entry: \$38,040 Average: \$51,580

**Degrees:** Social Work, Pharmacy, Mental Health, Dental Medicine

##### Software Developers

Entry: \$76,170 Average: \$101,990

##### Medical & Health Services Managers

Entry: \$80,230 Average: \$111,970

##### Accountants & Auditors

Entry: \$49,350 Average: \$77,070

**Degrees:** Computer Science, Information Technology, Accounting, Business Administration & Management

#### Sources:

Lightcast™

Employment and Training Administration, Competency Model Clearinghouse  
2022 Occupational Employment Survey Wage data, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Top employers data is based on 2022 online job ads



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